

DIVISION OF RESOURCES AND SUPPORT SERVICES STATEWIDE STUDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM NEWSLETTER

MAY 2005 Issue 7

Phase I Refresher Training Reminder

These training sessions are not just for the primary contacts. The lead SSMS contacts for your district should share the training announcements with all users in your district and then coordinate the needed training modules and session dates.

As a number of changes and enhancements have occurred over the course of this first year and some districts have experienced staff turnover, we urge you to arrange some refresher sessions for your teachers (portal), attendance clerks, guidance counselors, principals, etc. who may have direct responsibility for data entry, and/or reporting in the various modules being offered.

These training sessions were arranged for the benefit of the users. Please make your users aware of the sessions and take full advantage of these refresher training opportunities in the areas of:

- Academic History
- Attendance
- Grade Book Portal
- Grade Reporting

SSMS Regional User Groups Established

We are pleased to announce the awarding of grants to support the establishment of the SSMS Regional User Groups; locally formed collaborative working groups for the purpose of problem solving related to the implementation of SSMS and reporting through EIS. The grants are being awarded to the lead districts for the six regional user groups for the 2005-06 school year and will be renewed for the 2006-07 school year. We encourage all SSMS districts to participate in these user groups. Following is a list of the lead districts and the contacts for each user group.

WEST TN Lexington City Schools Randy Powers

MIDDLE TN Wayne County Schools Ricky Inman

UPPER CUMBERLAND Overton County Schools Mike Gilpatrick



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SOUTHCENTRAL TN Coffee County Schools Sharon Spears

UPPER EAST Hawkins County Schools Steve Starnes

Appreciation to Phase I Districts

Thirty-three school districts and one State Special School have completed the first full year of pilot implementation of the SSMS. On behalf of Commissioner Seivers and the entire SSMS Project Team, I would like to thank the users in these districts for their courage in serving as the pilot for this massive undertaking and especially for their steadfast patience and cooperation as we have all struggled together through this first year. The feedback that has been provided by the pilot districts has been instrumental in the improvement of training, general enhancements to the system, and the overall implementation process for the SSMS. Through their input, we have learned a lot this first year and we look forward to continue working with the pilot districts to help further improve the system and as we expand the implementation into Phase II for the 2005-06 school year. We sincerely thank the users in these districts for their perseverance!!

Timothy K. Webb, Ed.D. Assistant Commissioner Resources and Support Services Division Tennessee Department of Education